

Docket No. 22513-501

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/868,025

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the last full paragraph of page 16 of the substitute specification submitted on 19 May 2004 (set forth under the subject heading "Induction of Salt Stress"), please enter the following changes:

--For the induction of salt stress, the water in the petriplates containing 9 day old seedlings was replaced with 150 mM NaCl solution. One, two, four, eight and sixteen hours were collected by excising the endosperm and separating the seedling into root and shoot. The plant material was immediately frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at -80 degrees Celsius for RNA isolation later on [IR64 S.S - IR64 rice variety under salt stress; RASI S.S - RASI rice variety under salt stress].--

In the second full paragraph of page 17 of the substitute specification submitted on 19 May 2004 (set forth under the subject heading "Controls"), please enter the following changes:

--Unstressed nine day old seedlings of Rassi and IR 64, collected in the same manner as described above, were used as controls [IR64 C - IR64 rice variety kept as control; RASI C - RASI rice variety kept as control].--

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